

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 R

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NEA/ARP:FMDICKMAN

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EB/ORF/FSE:SBOSWORTH

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O R 271842Z AUG 74 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 187913

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XF, QA, US

SUBJECT: BRIEFING FOR AMIR OF QATAR ON CURRENT US THINKING

RE MID-EAST SETTLEMENT

REF: KUWAIT 3526 (NOTAL)

KUWAIT PASS DOHA

FOR AMBASSADOR PAGANELLI

1. FOLLOWING GENERAL COMMENTS REGARDING CURRENT USG THINK-
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ING ON MIDDLE EAST SITUATION MAY BE DRAWN UPON IN YOUR

UPCOMING MEETING WITH SHAYKH KHALIFA. AT OUTSET, WE THINK YOU SHOULD EXPLAIN WE ARE STILL ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN CONSULTATIONS AIMED AT REACHING CONSENSUS AMONG VARIOUS PARTIES AS TO BEST NEXT STEPS. IT IS THUS TOO EARLY TO SPEAK IN SPECIFIC TACTICAL TERMS, BUT YOU CAN EMPHASIZE OUR CONTINUING COMMITMENT TO KEEP UP MOMENTUM TOWARDS PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT.

2. YOU SHOULD STRESS TO KHALIFA THAT WHEN TWO DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENTS WERE CONCLUDED IN JANUARY AND MAY, ALL PARTIES CONCERNED CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD THEM TO BE SIMPLY FIRST STEPS TOWARDS TREATMENT OF MORE BASIC PROBLEMS. NEVERTHELESS, TWO AGREEMENTS ARE VERY SIGNIFICANT, BECAUSE THEY (1) TERMINATED MILITARY ACTIVITY; (2) PROVIDED FOR INTRODUCTION OF UN PEACE-KEEPING FORCES; (3) ESTABLISHED

AND ASSURED MAINTENANCE OF CEASEFIRE; (4) SET STAGE FOR ADDITIONAL MOVEMENTS TOWARD PEACE; AND (5) ESTABLISHED HERETOFORE NONEXISTENT PRECEDENT FOR FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN DISPUTING PARTIES. OVERRIDING IMPORTANCE OF ALL THESE FACTORS IS POSITIVE INDUCEMENT THEY CREATE FOR MOVEMENT INTO STAGE WHERE FINAL SETTLEMENT CAN BE CONSIDERED.

3. REFTTEL NOTES RECENT VISITS TO WASHINGTON OF ALLON, FAHMY, RIFAI AND HUSSEIN, AND KHADDAM. ADDITIONALLY, FOREIGN MINISTER SAQQAF IS DUE AUGUST 29-30, AND ALTHOUGH SAUDIS ARE NOT DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN ARAB-ISRAEL DISPUTE, THEIR IMPORTANCE IN ARAB WORLD AND THEIR INCREASING POLICY COORDINATION WITH CAIRO DICTATE THAT THEY TOO SHOULD BE CLOSELY CONSULTED ON MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM. ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER RABIN HAS BEEN INVITED TO WASHINGTON IN SEPTEMBER, AND FOLLOWING HIS VISIT AND ANOTHER EARLY ROUND OF CONSULTATION WITH OUR ARAB FRIENDS, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO CRYSTALIZE OUR JUDGMENT REGARDING NEXT SUBSTANTIVE STEPS IN NEGOTIATION PROCESS.

4. HOWEVER, SEVERAL ELEMENTS REQUIRE RESOLUTION PRIOR TO NEXT NEGOTIATING ROUND. JORDAN WOULD LIKE EARLY MOVEMENT TOWARD ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM AT LEAST A PART OF WEST
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BANK--SOME FORM OF DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT THAT WILL RESTORE ARAB AUTHORITY TO SOME OF WEST BANK. JORDAN FEELS STRONGLY IT MUST HAVE SOMETHING TO MATCH PROGRESS ALREADY MADE BY EGYPT AND SYRIA. HOWEVER, SINCE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT IS COMMITTED TO NEW ELECTIONS PRIOR TO ANY WITHDRAWAL FROM WEST BANK AND ELECTORAL PROCESS WOULD TAKE 3-4 MONTHS, QUESTION IS RAISED HOW TO RELATE ISRAEL-JORDAN NEGOTIATION TO TALKS ON OTHER ISSUES. ANOTHER

OPTION BEING CONSIDERED AS POSSIBLE NEXT STEP IS FURTHER WITHDRAWAL FROM SINAI. WE ALSO RECOGNIZE THERE MUST BE FURTHER STEP ON SYRIAN FRONT AT SOME POINT. YOU SHOULD STRESS TO SHAYKH KHALIFA THAT WE HAVE NOT YET REACHED ANY DECISION ON THE BEST ORDER OF PRIORITY AMONG THESE SEVERAL CHOICES AND THIS IS ONE OF MAIN ISSUES IN CURRENT DISCUSSIONS.

5. REGARDING PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATION: WE ARE AWARE OF PROBLEM FOR ARABS AS BETWEEN PLO AND GOJ CLAIMS AS RIGHTFUL REPRESENTATIVES OF PALESTINIANS. IN THAT JORDAN HAS GRANTED THEM FULL CITIZENSHIP, GOJ FEELS STRONGLY IT HAS RIGHT TO REPRESENT PALESTINIANS IN JORDAN. YOU SHOULD TELL SHAYKH KHALIFA USG HAS NOTED WITH INTEREST EGYPTIAN EFFORTS TO FIND PLO-JORDANIAN MODUS VIVENDI. THIS IS AN ISSUE WHICH OBVIOUSLY NEEDS TO BE RESOLVED BY THOSE IMMEDIATELY CONCERNED. AS FOR US, WE HAVE ON SEVERAL RECENT OCCASIONS REAFFIRMED OUR BELIEF THAT ANY PEACE SETTLEMENT MUST TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE LEGITIMATE INTERESTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. WE ARE WELL AWARE THAT PALESTINIAN VIEWPOINT WILL NEED TO BE REPRESENTED IN THE NEGOTIATION PROCESS AT APPROPRIATE TIME.

6. OVERALL THRUST OF YOUR PRESENTATION SHOULD GET ACROSS OUR DETERMINATION TO KEEP NEGOTIATING PROCESS GOING AND NEED FOR THAT PROCESS TO MOVE IN STAGES AND AT PACE WHICH TAKES ACCOUNT OF POLITICAL REALITIES IN ALL COUNTRIES CONCERNED. TO TRY TO DO TOO MUCH TOO RAPIDLY COULD CREATE NEW STALEMATE; TO PERMIT PROCESS TO FREEZE COULD LEAD TO BREAKDOWN OF CEASEFIRE AND LOSS OF GAINS ALREADY MADE. PROBLEM IS TO FIND COURSE BETWEEN THESE TWO EXTREMES.

7. YOU SHOULD AVOID SPECULATION OVER SECRETARY'S TRAVEL
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PLANS. IF KHALIFA RAISES SUBJECT, YOU SHOULD SAY SECRETARY'S EXTREME INTEREST IN PEACEFUL SOLUTION HAS BEEN MANIFESTED IN HIS WILLINGNESS TO ENGAGE HIMSELF PERSONALLY DURING TRIPS TO MIDDLE EAST IN PAST MONTHS AS WELL AS IN INTENSIVE ROUND OF CONSULTATIONS NOW GOING ON IN WASHINGTON. IT IS PREMATURE TO SPECULATE ON POSSIBLE NEED FOR SECRETARY TO VISIT MIDDLE EAST IN CONNECTION WITH FUTURE CONSULTATIONS OR NEGOTIATIONS, ALTHOUGH SUCH TRAVEL IS BY NO MEANS EXCLUDED.

8. OUR VIEWS ON OIL PRICES ARE IN STATE 157915 TO KUWAIT. THESE ARE STILL VALID AND MAY BE TAILORED FOR USE IN DOHA. YOU MAY ALSO WISH TO DRAW ON DESCRIPTIONS OF CURRENT MARKET SITUATION CONTAINED IN EACH ISSUE OF INTERNATIONAL OIL DEVELOPMENTS, WHICH YOU SHOULD BE RECEIVING VIA POUCH.

9. FOR KUWAIT: PLEASE GIVE COPY OF THIS CABLE TO RYAN
CROCKER TO HAND CARRY FROM KUWAIT TO AMBASSADOR PAGANELLI
ON AUGUST 28. ALSO, PLEASE ASSURE DOHA HAS COPY OF STATE
157915. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PALESTINIANS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, PEACE PLANS, LIMITATIONS OF HOSTILITIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: martinml
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE187913
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: GQLUMSDEN, JR.
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740237-0050
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740814/aaaaaloy.tel
Line Count: 174
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: KUWAIT 3526 (NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinml
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 JUN 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <19 MAR 2003 by martinml>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BRIEFING FOR AMIR OF QATAR ON CURRENT US THINKING RE MID-EAST SETTLEMENT
TAGS: PFOR, XF, QA, US, (THANI, KHALIFA IBN HAMAD AL)
To: KUWAIT
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005